

**Information Collection**  
**Underground Injection Control (UIC) Class V Well Study**  
**Spent Brine Return Flow Wells**

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**  
**Washington, DC 20460**

NOTE: If there is a more appropriate person to complete this questionnaire, please forward it.

*Please provide missing information and/or update the contact information provided below.*

	<b>Contact</b>
State:	
Name of Contact:	
Name of Agency:	
Street Address:	
City, State Zip:	
Phone Number:	
E-mail Address:	

If you have any questions or need assistance filling out this questionnaire, please contact:

Class V Coordinator  
(703) 931-8700

**EPA is required to collect this information as part of its consent decree with the Sierra Club, which was amended in 1997. EPA is authorized to collect this information under § 1421 of the SDWA, 42 USC §300h. Responses to this collection are voluntary.** The public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2 hours per response. Burden means the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. This includes the time needed to review instructions; develop, acquire, install, and utilize technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, and verifying information, processing and maintaining information, and disclosing and providing information; adjust the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; train personnel to be able to respond to a collection of information; search data sources; complete and review the collection of information; and transmit or otherwise disclose the information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control numbers for EPA's regulations are listed in 40 CFR Part 9 and 48 CFR Chapter 15. Send comments on the Agency's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates, and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden, including through the use of automated collection techniques to the Director, OPPE Regulatory Information Division • U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2137) • 401 M St., S.W. • Washington, D.C. 20460 • ; and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget • 725 17<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W. • Washington, D.C. 20503 • Attention: Desk Officer for EPA. • Include the EPA ICR number and OMB control number in any correspondence. Do not send the completed form to this address.

## Information Collection on Spent Brine Return Flow Wells

**DEFINITION:** Spent brine return flow wells are used to dispose of the spent brine which result from the extraction of minerals, halogens and other compounds from fluids. These wells are commonly associated with manufacturing facilities that produce specialty chemicals such as boron, bromine, magnesia, or their derivatives.

**We are only asking you to submit data that has already been collected by the State and is readily available. Please answer the following questions to the extent possible based on existing data.**

### 1. Regulations

We are obtaining regulations from the State Underground Injection Control (UIC) program. If spent brine return flow wells are regulated under a separate statute or regulation, please provide the citation(s) or attach appropriate copies. ☐ Check if attached.

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### 2. Number of Spent Brine Return Flow Wells

2a. Indicate the number of spent brine return flow wells that can be documented in the State (excluding wells that have been permanently plugged and abandoned): \_\_\_\_\_

2b. In your judgement, does the number given in 2a accurately reflect the number of wells in the State?

☐ Yes    ☐ Go to Question 3.

☐ No

2c. Please estimate the number of wells in the State (excluding wells that have been permanently plugged and abandoned): \_\_\_\_\_

2d. What is the source of the estimate given in 2c (e.g., survey, model, best professional judgement)?

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Please explain the methodology used to derive the estimate.

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### 3. Location of Spent Brine Return Flow Wells

Please provide the location of each spent brine return flow well in your inventory. We prefer latitude and longitude coordinates (a). If that information is not available, please provide other location information such as zip code (b), county (c), Quarter/Section/Township/Range (Q/S/T/R) coordinates, or other identifying information (d). If you have a database containing this information, you may submit this information in any format that is convenient for you instead of completing the following table. If completing the table or submitting information will be extremely time consuming or financially burdensome, please contact the Class V coordinator (see cover page). Please copy this page if you need additional lines.

*One well per line please.*

Unique well identifier (e.g., permit no., operator name)	PLEASE COMPLETE (a), (b), (c), OR (d). WE PREFER (a).				
	(a) Latitude/ Longitude (to minutes)		(b) Zip Code	(c) County Name	(d) Other Location Information (e.g., Q/S/T/R, UTM)
	Latitude	Longitude			

4. Does the State regulate spent brine return flow wells as Class II or Class III wells, or place Class II or III requirements on them?

Does the State:	Yes	No
Regulate Spent Brine Return Flow Wells as Class II or III Wells		
Place Class II or III Requirements on Spent Brine Return Flow Wells		

If you answered no to both questions above, what are the differences in construction, operation, and/or maintenance between Class V spent brine wells and Class II or III wells? \_\_\_\_\_

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5. Does the State have construction and/or siting requirements for these wells?

**9** Yes ☐ Please describe briefly below, or attach appropriate information. **9** Check if information attached.  
**9** No ☐ Go to Question 7.

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6. Does the State conduct inspections or review records to ensure that applicable construction requirements are met?

**9** Yes ☐ Please describe briefly below.  
**9** No ☐

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7. Does the State have operating requirements (e.g., contaminant limits, monitoring requirements)? *Please note that MITs are addressed in Questions 9 through 11.*

☐ Yes ☐ Please describe briefly below, or attach appropriate information. ☐ Check if information attached.  
☐ No ☐ Go to Question 9.

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8. Does the State conduct inspections or review records to ensure that applicable operating requirements are met?

☐ Yes ☐ Please describe briefly below.  
☐ No

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9. Does the State require operators to conduct mechanical integrity tests (MITs)?

☐ Yes  
☐ No ☐ Go to Question 12.

10. Can you provide data on MIT failure rates in your state?

☐ Yes ☐ Please attach such information. ☐ Check if attached.  
☐ No

11. When are MITs required? (Check all that apply).

☐ Prior to commencing injection.  
☐ Periodically during well operation. Frequency \_\_\_\_\_

12. We are interested in data on any constituents that may be injected into these wells (even if there are no drinking water standards associated with the contaminant). Is injectate quality (sampling) data available?

☐ Yes ☒ From whom are these studies available?

☐ No

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13. Do you have any studies on injectate quality for similar wells that are regulated under the Class II or III programs in the State?

☐ Yes ☒ From whom are these studies available?

☐ No

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14. Have there been any incidents in your State in which a spent brine return flow well contributed to contamination of an Underground Source of Drinking Water (USDW)? Contamination can include exceedances of Federal or State drinking water standards, ground water standards, or health advisory levels.

☒ Yes ☒ If any study or description of the incident exists, please provide us a copy. If not, please provide a brief summary for each incident. To the extent this information is available, include a description of what happened, the impact on ground water quality or drinking water wells (public or private), the date of the incident, the name of the city or county in which the incident occurred, and the name and phone number of a contact for follow up. ☐ Check if description(s) attached.

☐ No

☐ Don't Know

<b>Please Go To Page 6 and Complete the Additional Contacts Section.</b>
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## Additional Contacts

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Please list individuals that could help answer our questions on spent brine return flow wells. Include individuals from other State programs, local programs, or institutions such as universities, as appropriate.

Name/Title: _____	Name/Title: _____
Affiliation: _____	Affiliation: _____
Street Address: _____ _____	Street Address: _____ _____
Telephone Number: _____	Telephone Number: _____

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**Thank you for your assistance.**

Please remember to:

☐ Attach appropriate information.

☐ Return this questionnaire

In the pre-paid Federal Express envelope to:  
Class V Study Coordinator  
4900 Seminary Road  
Suite 600  
Alexandria, VA 22311

By fax to:  
Class V Study Coordinator  
(703) 931-8701